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WIKIPEDIA

– a biased encyclopaedia edited by trolls subservient to Jewish interests: The Case of KOUROSH ZIABARI

[Kourosh Ziabari - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kourosh_Ziabari[Cached](#)

Kourosh Ziabari (in Persian: کوروش زیابری) (born April 27, 1990) is an award-winning Iranian journalist, peace activist and media correspondent. He has ...

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[KouroshZiabari1-320x311.jpg](#)

[kourosh.gif](#) - kavitachhibber.com [Kourosh-Ziabari.jpg](#) mycatbirdseat.com

Kourosh Ziabari (in Persian: کوروش زیابری) (born April 27, 1990) is an award-winning Iranian journalist, peace activist and media correspondent. He has received the Superior Iranian Youth award from Iranian President [Mahmoud Ahmadinejad](#).^[1] He has also won Iran's 18th Press Festival first award in the category of political articles. Kourosh is a member of World Student Community for Sustainable Development and also a member of the European Association for Teaching of Academic Writing. Kourosh Ziabari's work informs the global public about a balanced view of Iran and its civilization and arts. He is opposed to the West's economic sanctions and threats of military strike against Iran.

The works of Kourosh have been published by world media, as he is the Iranian affairs writer and media correspondent with the Oregon-based news website [Salem News](#),^[2] and columnist with the US-based foreign affairs journal [Veterans Today](#).^[3] Some of his articles and interviews have appeared on Australia's [Online Opinion](#)^[4] website and also Canada's [GlobalResearch.CA](#).^[5]

Ziabari has appeared on the radio show of many progressive and conservative radio hosts critical of American foreign policy including American conspiracy theorist [Jeff Rense](#), [Mark Dankof](#), Stephen Lendman, Mark Glenn^[6] and [Kevin Barrett](#) who stated that "9/11 had nothing to do with Islam".

Kourosh Ziabari has conducted several first-hand interviews with progressive world-renowned academicians, journalists, scientists, political commentators and politicians, some critical of US foreign policy towards Israel and Palestinians including [Noam Chomsky](#), [Peter Singer](#), [Vicente Fox](#), [Glenn Greenwald](#), [Jean Bricmont](#), [Thierry Meyssan](#), [Yvonne Ridley](#), [Ruprecht Polenz](#), [Vijay Prashad](#), [Deepak Tripathi](#), [Keith Locke](#), [Robin Warren](#), [Anthony James Leggett](#), [William Beeman](#), [Wolfgang Ketterle](#), [Stephen Kinzer](#), [Eric Margolis](#), [Linh Dinh](#), [Carlos Latuff](#), [Stephen Zunes](#), [Gareth Porter](#), [Alain de Botton](#), [Heinrich Rohrer](#), [Erri De Luca](#), [Gilad Atzmon](#), [Sid Ganis](#) and [Douglas Osheroff](#). He has also interviewed experts [critical of government accounts](#) that the September 11 attacks were perpetrated by Muslims such as [Alan Hart](#), [David Ray Griffin](#), [James H. Fetzer](#), [Wayne Madsen](#), and [Paul Craig Roberts](#).

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[\[edit\]](#) Career

Kourosh Ziabari began writing articles for local magazines in the northern Iranian province of Guilan since he was 8. He has also written articles on politics, society, culture and technology for Iran's leading national dailies including [Shargh](#), [Hamshahri](#), [Etemaad](#), [Iran](#), [Ham-Mihan](#) and [Jame-Jam](#). He is also a regular contributor to Daneshmand Magazine, Iran's oldest popular science publication.

Since 2008, Kourosh Ziabari has been writing for international journals, news websites and magazines and his articles, interviews and commentaries have been translated into several languages. He is a regular contributor to Iran's leading English-language daily [Tehran Times](#) and the Iranian-funded satellite TV channel [Press TV](#). His works have also been featured by [CounterPunch](#) and [Baltimore Chronicle](#).

Kourosh Ziabari's main concern in his articles is to acquaint the global public with the hidden and concealed realities of Iran and different facets of his country's culture, civilization and arts.

He is opposed to the West's economic sanctions and threats of military strike against Iran and believes that the sanctions directly affect the ordinary Iranian people's lives and deteriorate their economic situation and are in sharp contrast to the Western leaders' claims of friendship and affinity with the Iranian nation.^[7]

Ziabari has always made attempts to introduce Iran's cultural heritage to the international audience and make them familiar with Iran's prominent historical personalities and figures including scientists, poets, writers, etc. He believes that Iranians have made essential contributions to world's cultural heritage and for this reason, they deserve to be venerated. He asserts that Iranians desire to live in peace and friendship with the other nation and have never attacked nor invaded any country unlike the belligerent colonial powers who accuse Iran of sponsoring terrorism. [8]

[edit] Viewpoints

[edit] Anti-Islamic sentiments

Kourosh Ziabari believes that Muslims are subject to blind prejudice, systematic discrimination and unjustifiable bias in the Western societies. The portrayal of mass media of the Muslims is unrealistic and biased and does not represent the reality of Muslims' lifestyle and attitudes. He believes that anti-Islamic sentiments are rising in the U.S. and Europe and that a horrendous wave of [Islamophobia](#) is encompassing the West, especially following the [September 11 attacks](#). He believes that Western media are fueling Islamophobia. [9] Ziabari strongly condemned the [burning of Holy Quran](#) by the extremist pastor [Terry Jones](#) and called on the international community to bring him to justice. In an article titled "Does burning Quran solve your problems?", Kourosh Ziabari responded to the burning of Muslims' holy book by pastor [Terry Jones](#). [10]

[edit] Anti-Iranian propaganda

Ziabari is a strong advocate of Persian culture and civilization. He maintains that Iran, during the course of past 100 years, has never attacked nor invaded any country and this is a proof that it doesn't pose any threat to international peace. Those who accuse Iran of threatening global peace and stability are already involved in several military expeditions around the world. Kourosh Ziabari believes that the Western [mainstream media](#) are engaged in an all-out psychological operation and black propaganda against Iran and are depicting a distorted and false image of Iranians to their audiences. Ziabari condemns the war of words directed by the United States and Israel against Iran and asserts that Western mainstream media are run by a group of influential Zionists who want to demonize Iran and portray a black image of Iran to the international community. [11]

[edit] Freedom of Speech

Ziabari points that in contrast to Europe's image as a "heaven of liberty", many "high-ranking academicians and authors from various nationalities" have been imprisoned in European countries for questioning or conducting scientific research on the authenticity of Zionist Holocaust accounts. He notes Dr. Fredrick Toben who was imprisoned five times in five different countries. In other nations, Germar Rudolf, Ernst Zundel and Sylvia Stolz, Siegfried Verbeke and Wolfgang Frohlich and Gerd Honsik were also sent to European prisons for their statements about the Holocaust. [12]

[edit] Persian Gulf

Kourosh Ziabari believes that [Persian Gulf](#) and its islands are parts of Iran's cultural and historical heritage and should be preserved diligently. He believes that efforts aimed at distorting the name of [Persian Gulf](#) are parts of an anti-Iranian campaign spearheaded by certain countries that want to derail Iran's regional supremacy and dominance in the Middle East. He has written numerous articles about the historicity and authenticity of the Persian Gulf's name and argued that all the historical evidence and documents attest to the fact that [Persian Gulf](#) has always been called with this name. [13] He has also conducted interviews with the geopolitics expert Prof. [Pirouz Mojtabahedzadeh](#) and proved that the islands of [Abu Musa](#) and [Greater and Lesser Tunbs](#) have always been inseparable parts of Iran and claims made by the [UAE](#) on these islands are unfounded and encouraged by Israel. [14]

[edit] Iran-U.S. relations

Ziabari is a strong proponent of political and cultural reconciliation between Iran and the United States. He has written several articles and conducted many interviews in which he has attempted to convince the American public that the embittered relations between Iran and the United States should be restored to normalcy and that there's no reason for hostility between the two countries. In 2009, he took part in a debate with the American freelance journalist Dave Eriqat [15] and discussed with him a variety of issues including the cultural affinity of Iran and the United States, the contributions of Iranian community to scientific and economic progress of the United States and the possible ways for settling the disputes between the two countries.

[edit] Iranian culture and civilization

Ziabari maintains that [Persian culture](#) and civilization has been consigned to oblivion as a result of the intensive media propaganda against Iran. He says that Iran has historically been a land of arts and sciences, but many people around the world are unaware of this fact. What the majority of Western citizens know about Iran is limited to controversy over Iran's nuclear program, while the other facets of Iranian lifestyle have been largely ignored. In different articles, Ziabari has tried to introduce

prominent Iranian scholars, scientists and artists who have made important and remarkable contributions to the global culture such as [Avicenna](#)^[16] and [Omar Khayyam](#)^[17]. Ziabari believes that although the Europeans have constantly called themselves the pioneers of sciences and arts throughout the history, they were the Iranians who revolutionized different aspects of the human life since ancient times up to now.

“ Although the European nations usually boast of being the foremost pioneers and harbingers in various fields of science and arts, they know well that they owe to the Persians the achievement of many peaks and breakthroughs which they introduce as being theirs. Persians have been traditionally skilful and dexterous in different branches of astronomy, mathematics, physics, medicine, psychiatry, architecture, philosophy, theology and literature and the unparalleled names of Ferdowsi, Rumi, Rhazes, Rudaki, Biruni, Al-Farabi, Al-Khawrizmi and Avicenna attest to the fact that Iran has been perpetually a land of science, knowledge and conscience in which cleverness grows and talent develops. ”

— Kourosh Ziabari, [Istanbul Literary Review](#)

[edit] Iran and terrorism

When in office, the former U.S. President [George W. Bush](#) called Iran part of an "Axis of Evil" and accused Iran of sponsoring international terrorism. Kourosh Ziabari argues that contrary to these claims, Iran is itself a victim of the state-sponsored terrorism. He says that the terrorist gang [MKO](#) which is said to be supported by the United States has killed hundreds of Iranian civilians and even politicians and should be held accountable for these crimes. However, the European Union has removed the name of [MKO](#) from its list of terrorist organizations, thus giving more room to it to further its dangerous operations around the world. Kourosh Ziabari believes that Iran has always been at the forefront of confronting terrorism and there's no credible evidence confirming that Iran has been a supporter or sponsor of terrorism as the United States and its European allies claim. [\[18\]](#)

[edit] Views on Israel

Ziabari is opposed to Israel's occupation of the [Gaza Strip](#) and [West Bank](#) and has written several articles and conducted many interviews regarding the ordeal and plight of the Palestinian nation under Israeli aggression. He, however, believes that having anti-Israeli sentiments is completely in sharp contrast to [anti-Semitism](#) and that those who oppose Israel's actions and policies should not be vilified as anti-Semite. He believes that Jews, like the Muslims and Christians, are the followers of a divine religion and should be respected and allowed to practice their religious ceremonies without being persecuted and harassed. Ziabari has argued that even in Iran which is a Muslim-majority country, Jews are peacefully living along with the rest of Iranians and are entitled to every political, social and economic right which the rest of people enjoy. He calls Jews a "respectable minority" and believes that all followers of the monotheistic religions should be revered and allowed to enjoy social rights. [\[19\]](#)

[edit] Saudi Arabia's policies

Ziabari posits that Saudi Arabia is a source of sedition and insecurity in the Middle East. He says that Saudi Arabia has betrayed its Muslim neighbor Iran and is taking orders from Tel Aviv in confronting Iran. He believes that Saudi Arabia is dancing to Israel's tunes and is taking serious steps to demonize Iran and make the international community believe that Iran poses a threat to the security of Middle East. According to Ziabari, Saudi Arabia has exaggerated the potential threat of Iran's nuclear program and is spreading falsehood with regards to Iran's peaceful nuclear program. By referring to the remarks of Saudi Foreign Minister, Kourosh Ziabari has argued that Saudi Arabia has become a stooge for Israel and the United States in the region and turned its back to the Islamic values for which she has been venerated by the majority of Muslims around the world. [\[20\]](#)

[edit] 2011 Norway attacks

With regards to the [2011 Norway attacks](#) in which a mass murderer and terrorist named [Anders Behring Breivik](#) opened fire on hundreds of young members of the [Norwegian Labour Party's AUF](#) who had hold a demonstration in support of the Palestinian nation and voiced their criticism of the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian lands, Ziabari believes that the Western [mainstream media](#) deliberately put out of sight the truths and realities behind the terrorist attacks and euphemistically downgraded Breivik to a "shooter" instead of calling him a terrorist, as he really was. Ziabari maintains that this attack was not only a massacre of innocent civilians in the heart of Europe, but an assault on multiculturalism and an [Islamophobic](#) ploy which the mass media in the West tried to conceal and hide from public view. [\[21\]](#)

[edit] Rohingya Muslims massacre

With the eruption of unrest and riots in the [Rakhine State of Myanmar](#) in the late July, 2012 and the massacre of Muslims in the Western Burmese state, Kourosh Ziabari reacted promptly and wrote articles which were widely published on the web. In one of his articles co-authored with Iqbal Ahmad, he demanded international response to the massacre of [Rohingya](#) Muslims and called on human rights organizations to take practical steps to ensure that the plight of Myanmar Muslims will be drawn to an end. [\[22\]](#)

[edit] NAM summit in Tehran

Regarding the [16th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement](#) in Tehran, Kourosh Ziabari believes that this movement can play a major role in the international scene and make important decisions within the framework of the [United Nations](#) and other international organizations and influence the course of developments in the world. He believes that since Iran has assumed the presidency of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Western mainstream media have been downplaying the importance and significance of this movement so as to make their audience believe that Iran is an isolated country. But according to Ziabari, this summit and the presence of delegations from 120 countries of the world in [Tehran](#) demonstrated that Iran is not isolated and enjoys a remarkable international popularity. [\[23\]](#)

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Kourosh Ziabari

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- 08:56, 27 December 2012 [Future Perfect at Sunrise](#) ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) deleted page [Kourosh Ziabari](#) ([Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari \(2nd nomination\)](#))
- 13:51, 25 July 2009 [Tedder](#) ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) moved page [Kourosh Ziabari](#) to [User:Hafez Haghjoo/Kourosh Ziabari](#) without leaving a redirect (per results of AFD: [Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari](#))
- 10:49, 19 March 2007 [CJ](#) ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) deleted page [Kourosh Ziabari](#) (delete per [Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari](#): content was previously userfied)
- 17:00, 17 October 2006 [NawlinWiki](#) ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) deleted page [Kourosh Ziabari](#) (g4, see [Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari](#))
- 10:14, 21 September 2006 [MONGO](#) ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) deleted page [Kourosh Ziabari](#) ([Wikipedia:Votes for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari](#))
- 00:34, 21 September 2006 [JesseW](#) ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) deleted page [Kourosh Ziabari](#) (recreation (per [Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari](#)))
- 12:24, 30 August 2005 [Allen3](#) ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) deleted page [Kourosh Ziabari](#) ([Wikipedia:Votes for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari](#))
- 12:21, 30 August 2005 [Allen3](#) ([talk](#) | [contribs](#)) moved page [Kourosh Ziabari](#) to [User:Kourosh ziabari](#) ([Wikipedia:Votes for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari](#))

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Wikipedia: Articles for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari (2nd nomination)

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*The following discussion is an archived debate of the proposed deletion of the article below. **Please do not modify it.** Subsequent comments should be made on the appropriate discussion page (such as the article's [talk page](#) or in a [deletion review](#)). No further edits should be made to this page.*

The result was **delete** (discounting obvious single-purpose accounts) [Fut.Perf.](#) ☼
08:56, 27 December 2012 (UTC)

[\[edit\]](#) [Kourosh Ziabari](#)

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References do not establish notability of subject. Just a collection of this individual's largely fringe viewpoints. A 2005 AfD [Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari](#) on the subject had consensus to delete. [Plot Spoiler](#) ([talk](#)) 16:26, 20 December 2012 (UTC)

- **Keep.** There's no convincing reason for the deletion of the article. The notability of the subject is easily distinguishable and the fact that the article includes the subject's viewpoints is not something unprecedented. It's a common practice in the majority of Wikipedia's biographical articles that the viewpoints of the subject, whether a journalist, academician or author are included. --[ZahraKazemi](#) ([talk](#)) 17:06, 20 December 2012 (UTC)
- **Keep.** This another notable contributor to significant pro-palestine anti-Israel press outlets such as PressTV which reflects the official policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Veterans Today which is another "fringe" outlet identified by both ADL and Southern Poverty Law Center as an important and dangerous anti-semitic conspiracy outlet. The article suffers from a bias in favor of the author's viewpoints which are very close to those of the Iranian government which has many critics. Many of these articles appear to be proposed for deletion to make it difficult to research who these people are really speaking for, and Plot Spoiler has also proposed to delete Mark Dankof who also writes for Iran's PressTV. [Redhanker](#) ([talk](#)) 17:31, 20 December 2012 (UTC)

Note: This debate has been included in the [list of Authors-related deletion discussions](#). ★★

[DUCKISPEANUTBUTTER](#)★★ 17:47, 20 December 2012 (UTC)

Note: This debate has been included in the [list of Iran-related deletion discussions](#). ★★

[DUCKISPEANUTBUTTER](#)★★ 17:47, 20 December 2012 (UTC)

- **Keep.** The author is both articulate and resourceful and highly accurate in his reporting. We need more exchange of information and communication with Iran, not less. In this time of stress between nations, his contributions are especially valuable. [24.177.119.16](#) ([talk](#)) 00:28, 21 December 2012 (UTC) James H. Fetzer — [24.177.119.16](#) ([talk](#) • [contribs](#)) has made [few or no other edits](#) outside this topic.

- **Keep.** Kourosh Ziabari is a first-rate journalist and internationally respected reporter in global news media. Sincerely, Mark Dankof — Preceding [unsigned](#) comment added by [Kramf](#) ([talk](#) • [contribs](#)) 03:42, 21 December 2012 (UTC) — [Kramf](#) ([talk](#) • [contribs](#)) has made [few or no other edits](#) outside this topic.

Just to take a tally now. Three of the "keep" votes appear to come from Veterans Today contributors. "ZahraKazemi", who appears to be "Kourosh Ziabari" or someone editing on his behalf. It appears this individual then prodded [James H. Fetzer](#) and [Mark Dankof](#) to contribute (who until this date have not contributed to Wikipedia). I suggest their votes be discounted. [Plot Spoiler](#) ([talk](#)) 15:11, 21 December 2012 (UTC)

Making unsubstantiated claims and bringing no evidence to demonstrate them is not too difficult. [ZahraKazemi](#) ([talk](#)) 19:54, 21 December 2012 (UTC)

- **Delete** - I'm agree with the nominator that the article would include a kind of fringe viewpoints which can't bring the article notability. I didn't find any independent RS that explains the fact to verify the notability. I also think there are some SP existed in this Afd. • [Mehran](#) [Debate](#) • 13:00, 22 December 2012 (UTC)

- **Keep:** Kourosh Ziabari is an award winning journalist who published in numerous internationally recognized media. It may be that the person he interviews are by "some" considered as controversial while "others" consider them heroes for speaking out, they are under any circumstance "experts" in their fields. As a Palestinian and Arab I consider the removal request merely as one more example for to what lengths "some" will go to silence news and opinion which does not concur with the most prevalent and socially accepted "consensus reality" which is disseminated by media in traditional colonialist, neo-colonialist countries and and their allies. It is a sign of their lack of understanding of the very democracy and pluralism they claim to stand for that I have to respond to this removal request. Fahwad al-Khadoumi. — Preceding [unsigned](#) comment added by [Fahwad Khadoumi](#) ([talk](#) • [contribs](#)) 20:01, 22 December 2012 (UTC) — [Fahwad Khadoumi](#) ([talk](#) • [contribs](#)) has made [few or no other edits](#) outside this topic.

- **Keep.** There's no doubt that the subject is notable enough to have a Wikipedia entry. The reasons presented for the removal of his page are superficial. Wikipedia should always maintain a certain degree of impartiality and objectivity so as to preserve its credibility. [Mohammadttavakoli](#) ([talk](#)) 17:10, 24 December 2012 (UTC) — [Mohammadttavakoli](#) ([talk](#) • [contribs](#)) has made [few or no other edits](#) outside this topic.

- **Delete** The one source that might potentially establish notability is the award he received, but that fails to establish enough context to be meaningful, plus the site the supporting article is hosted on has enough indiscriminate tabloid trash to be highly questionable. All of the other sources are either trivial, (staff-directory pages for sites he has contributed to) or opinion pieces he himself has written. This page needs sources **about** him, not **by** him. [Grayfell](#) ([talk](#)) 08:55, 25 December 2012 (UTC)

Wikipedia is an encyclopedia, not an ideology forum. Banning someone from Wikipedia and removing his/her entry for simply maintaining certain viewpoints is not an acceptable behavior. The majority of those who call for the deletion of this entry do so because their political viewpoints are different from that of the subject; otherwise, they

don't bring up convincing evidence to support their position. [ZahraKazemi](#) ([talk](#)) 18:21, 25 December 2012 (UTC)

Wikipedia has many articles on people with a wide variety of viewpoints; this discussion is about Kourosh Ziabari's [basic notability](#). Regardless of his views, sources fail to adequately establish that he warrants an article at all. This is not a discussion of whether or not he would be 'banned' from Wikipedia, that is a different issue. [Grayfell](#) ([talk](#)) 00:30, 26 December 2012 (UTC)

Grayfell; you fail to demonstrate, by bringing up evidence and witnesses, that Kourosh Ziabari is not notable enough to have a Wikipedia entry. On what basis do you propose such an argument? Kourosh Ziabari has been published and interviewed by the world's most renowned progressive media outlets (if you can come to terms with such media) and if what you say is true, then all the journalists who have pages on Wikipedia lack the basic notability which you talk of. [ZahraKazemi](#) ([talk](#)) 19:41, 26 December 2012 (UTC)

LOL! Do you honestly believe that the Iranian regime's [Press TV](#) and [Veterans Today](#) with its anti-semitic conspiracy theories are "progressive" outlets? Far from it. [Plot Spoiler](#) ([talk](#)) 20:36, 26 December 2012 (UTC)

So, Plot Spoiler, your concern is not the subject's notability. You have an ideological problem with the subject, and as I mentioned earlier, I think nobody agrees with you that Wikipedia is a place for ideological arguments and value judgments. If you have a problem with the "Iranian regime," I think you should solve it somewhere else, not by nominating for deletion the entry for someone whom you constantly fail to demonstrate is not notable and does not meet Wikipedia's notability criteria. [ZahraKazemi](#) ([talk](#)) 20:54, 26 December 2012 (UTC)

Other neutral editors and I have demonstrated that the subject clearly fails the notability criteria. If you wish to keep ignoring Wikipedia policy, that's fine. [Plot Spoiler](#) ([talk](#)) 20:57, 26 December 2012 (UTC)

I don't think you are a "neutral editor." And by accusing me of ignoring Wikipedia's policy, you cannot put a lid on your anti-Iran bias. So, it's easily conceivable that after this entry, you'll continue nominating the entries of those who support the "Iranian regime" and weave "anti-semitic" conspiracies. I have a suggestion for you. Nominate [Gunter Grass](#)'s entry for deletion. He has recently composed some anti-semitic poems! By the way; where are your demonstrations? [ZahraKazemi](#) ([talk](#)) 21:12, 26 December 2012 (UTC)

I don't think his association with antisemitic web sites is the issue. Neither is his 'fringe' viewpoint. ZahraKazemi, if you really want to save this article, I challenge you to find [reliable](#), [non-primary](#) sources establishing his notability. There are many journals and magazines that discuss journalists and journalism, so if he is as notable as you claim, you should be able to find *something*. The burden of proof is on you to establish that he is notable, not us to demonstrate that he isn't. Complaining about other editors isn't going to get you anywhere. [Grayfell](#) ([talk](#)) 22:16, 26 December 2012 (UTC)

I think we are now heading toward a logical, reason-based discussion. Why not? I'll cite references and evidences to establish that he is notable; references and sources which are abundantly accessible on the web and indicate the subject's notability in a clear-cut and unequivocal way. If the problem was really a lack of sufficient and strong references and sources, it could have been discussed in the article's talk page, not in

its nomination for deletion page. So, once this arguments come to an end, I'll work on improving the article. [ZahraKazemi](#) ([talk](#)) 22:44, 26 December 2012 (UTC)

- **Delete** Journalists are only notable if other people write about them, i.e., if secondary sources exist. I see nothing in the article or the links above that establish this. Without these sources it is not possible to write a neutral article. [TFD](#) ([talk](#)) 23:21, 26 December 2012 (UTC)
- **Delete** due to lack of non-trivia coverage in reliable independent sources, which we require not only for our notability guideline but also to ensure that the article is compliant with [WP:BLP](#). [Guy](#) ([Help!](#)) 23:24, 26 December 2012 (UTC)
- **Delete**, notability has not been demonstrated, reliable sources are absent, and the whole Viewpoint section is essentially original research derived by the main author of the page from the articles written by the subject.--[Ymblanter](#) ([talk](#)) 07:06, 27 December 2012 (UTC)

The above discussion is preserved as an archive of the debate. Please do not modify it. Subsequent comments should be made on the appropriate discussion page (such as the article's [talk page](#) or in a [deletion review](#)). No further edits should be made to this page.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kourosh_Ziabari

[Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Kourosh Ziabari](#)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

< [Wikipedia:Articles for deletion](#)

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This page is an archive of the proposed deletion of the article below. Further comments should be made on the appropriate discussion page (such as the article's talk page or on a Votes for Undeletion nomination). No further edits should be made to this page.

The result of the debate was **Userfy** (discussion could have also supported a consensus for deletion, but userfying is the less drastic option) --[Allen3](#) ([talk](#)) 12:19, August 30, 2005 (UTC)

[\[edit\]](#) [Kourosh Ziabari](#)

This article, it seems, was written by Kourosh ziabari. There are a few hundred instances of him on the net; the 6 pages of his from the UK are basically him writing on blogs, though, and they don't particularly make sense. I skimmed over some of the Farsi links too, (although my grip on that language is not strong, to put it lightly,) and it seems that, on most of them, he is just bigging himself up. I highlight this for a votes for deletion because I am not sure whether his age and his 'acceptance' classified him as notable. If so, this article needs some deal of rewriting. If not, like I expect, then so be it. [IINAG](#) 23:43, 24th August 2005 (UTC)

- I was just mulling over the page wondering what to do with it, and when I decided to add the VfD header it was already there. Good call. **Delete** unless sourced. --[fvw*](#) 23:54, August 24, 2005 (UTC)
- Seems to be just a blogger... I say delete for now. [Andre](#) ([talk](#)) 00:15, August 25, 2005 (UTC)
- I agree with you too. In fact, with all the links to him that I have read, he talks about being a journalist, but there are no examples of journalism! I fear that this may be a case of [Walter Mitty](#), but perhaps it is just childish imagination. He also claimed that he wrote for the Washington Post and the New York Times, but there are no links to his 'articles' for them at all [IINAG](#) 00:26, 25th August 2005 (UTC).

- **Delete** unless proof of notability is provided. This is why we have [WP:AUTO](#). — [N](#)
~~(t/c) 01:45, 25 August 2005 (UTC)~~ **Userfy**. 16:14, 25 August 2005 (UTC)
- **Delete** nn autobio at this point. --[Etacar11](#) 03:35, 25 August 2005 (UTC)
- **Delete** - "World's youngest journalist" gets no relevant Google hits. As for the list of awards... I've won somewhere upwards of 25 regional, state and national honors for excellence in journalism, including five National Newspaper Pacemaker Awards - but that doesn't make me Wikipedia-worthy. From one journalist to another, best of luck in the future... but plumping yourself on Wikipedia isn't going to further your career. Best to get back to writing. **Userfy** per Alphax. [FCYTravis](#) 04:27, 25 August 2005 (UTC)
- **Userfy**. [Alphax](#) TEX 04:21, 25 August 2005 (UTC)
- **Userfy**. All the Google hits to "Kourosh Ziabari" point to his own blogs. He doesn't seem notable enough to merit an article. However, it will make a nice user page. — [JIP](#)
~~+ [Talk](#) 04:30, 25 August 2005 (UTC)~~
 - I change my vote to **weak delete**. Kourosh Ziabari is rapidly losing credibility here. — [JIP](#) | [Talk](#) 05:52, 30 August 2005 (UTC)
- **Delete** or **userfy**. Autobiography, vanity. [jni](#) 06:33, 25 August 2005 (UTC)
- **Delete** seems to be just a big-headed guy advertising himself. No source or citation. Delete unless cited. (Unsigned vote by [132.216.227.206](#) ([talk](#) · [contribs](#)))
- **Delete** This person does not deserve to have a biography here. Compare his [weblog](#) last entry "What is cholera?" with [this page](#) or just simply google a sentence from his weblog. You will absolutely find an obvious case of [plagiarism](#). Writing articles is different from copying and pasting other's works. (Unsigned vote by [70.52.6.179](#) ([talk](#) · [contribs](#)))
- Dear spammer, Our problem is not cholera at this time dear spammer. Our problem is "Kourosh Ziabari" Unsigned vote by Kourosh Ziabari, who removed the above vote
 - Kourosh, you should not remove votes from VfD discussions. It constitutes vandalism. And the criticism is legit - you flat-out stole that article from the health guide website. You even included the headers before the actual article, not bothering to even try to make it look like you wrote it. If this is all your "journalism" amounts to, it is not journalism, it's theft. — [JIP](#) | [Talk](#) 10:24, 26 August 2005 (UTC)
- An observation: There is a book by Elizabeth Laird titled "The House on the Hill," and I don't doubt it is a perfectly lovely book. However, according to Amazon, it is aimed at children age 4 to 6. According to my local library catalog, it is 31 pages long, illustrated, and is intended as textbook for foreign speakers of English (part of MacMillan press' Heinemann system of guided readers). So I question its status as a "novel" as described on the page in question. It leads one to question the probable amount of exaggeration elsewhere in the page. **Userfy**. (On the other hand, [Elizabeth Laird](#) is a prolific author of children's books and probably deserves a Wiki page.) (Unsigned vote by [Crypticfirefly](#) ([talk](#) · [contribs](#)))
- Just I was wondering how a [31 page Beginner Level story in a series](#) could be called a novel. On the other hand, [this](#) is his translation of that 31 page. (At least, this was accessible through the internet). His translation is about 4000 words; therefore, I believe that Kourosh has just translated a part of that book , maybe one title and then has called it a novel. Am I right? Kourosh, don't you think that you exaggerate everything (a little bit)? ([64.229.132.61](#) ([talk](#) · [contribs](#)))
 - It could be a severely abridged version. Does someone actually understand Farsi, and can explain further about the translation? To me, Arabic script looks like gibberish. — [JIP](#) | [Talk](#) 18:54, 27 August 2005 (UTC)
- **Delete**. His few writings, if could be counted as article, are just sort of ordinary school-writings of a secondary school student, which make no contribution. Can not be taken serious even, nonsense to some extent in some instances.
Kourosh, your weblog is just two months old. How have you been writing in your weblog since 2002? How come?

Moreover, your claim to be "one of the most active persian Bloggers" makes no sense when you have posted only 13 entries so far.

- In the sentence "he is one of the most active Persian bloggers", there are a couple of words missing: "spammers", and "among". So, we should have: "he is one of the most active spammers among Persian bloggers".
- Warning! Do not let Kourosh Ziabari use Wikipedia for self advertising. This man is a very well known spammer ([weblogs spam](#)) among Persian bloggers. There is no need to even know Farsi; just try this [google link](#), and see how he has posted same comments for different weblogs, same text full of self advertising and vanity. He is fake, very fake. **Delete** and not even Userfy. (Unsigned vote by [70.52.10.46 \(talk · contribs\)](#))

[\[edit\]](#) A question

You are right, world's youngest journalist returns no google hits but WORLD YOUNGEST JOURNALIST RETURNS MORE THAN 4 PAGES SEARCH RESULT OF GOOGLE. OK?

How can I prove that I am the world youngest journalist? Have I the ability or the permission to link all my 1000 articles?

Sure. ~~ [N \(t/c\)](#) 01:45, 25 August 2005 (UTC)

WHAT?! NO! [Zoe](#) 06:20, August 25, 2005 (UTC)

Kourosh, the problem is not that people don't believe you are the youngest journalist.

The problem is that Wikipedia has a rule against writing an article about yourself.

However, you can put what you wrote on your user page. -- Reinyday

There are other young journalists, anyway. You're not all *that* young. [Tim Rhymeless \(Er...let's shimmy\)](#) 10:18, 26 August 2005 (UTC)

Not that you seem to have done alot more than me or any other kid in my journalism class, but best of luck to you. You might see [Maria Sansone](#). [Tim Rhymeless \(Er...let's shimmy\)](#) 07:46, 28 August 2005 (UTC)

I have another question, all the boys and girls on this page [Child prodigies](#) are real genius and gifted talented personals, and just I am the problem? All the boys and girls on that page have unormal and special abilities and just I have not?

The trick is, you shouldn't put yourself there. Someone else really ought to. [Tim Rhymeless \(Er...let's shimmy\)](#) 10:18, 26 August 2005 (UTC)

- Hello again, Kourosh. Excuse me if I am curt, but I would not classify writing some web-logs as qualifying you as a [prodigy](#). It is great to start typing something of value, but thousands upon thousands of people do it. Perhaps if you truly had written columns for the New York Times and the Washington Post, as you claimed elsewhere, you would have had our attention, already. [IINAG](#) 13:24, 25 August 2005 (UTC)

If you link to your articles, it would prove your claim. That's easy!

- Comment: Kourosh should consider entering the [International Wikinews Writing Contest](#) and make a point of filing his reports in English.
- **Delete** (or userfy). Vanity article [JII](#) 20:37, 28 August 2005 (UTC)
- **Delete** Vanity. --[tranquileye](#) 19:27:56, 2005-08-29 (UTC)

The above discussion is preserved as an archive of the debate. Please do not modify it. Subsequent comments should be made on the appropriate discussion page (such as the article's talk page or in an [undeletion request](#)). No further edits should be made to this page.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Articles_for_deletion/Kourosh_Ziabari

Kourosh Zabiari is not the only one who is faced with Trolls at work. Fredrick Töben's Wikipedia's entry is constantly interfered with so as to slant the profile and make it fit into: hater, Holocaust denier, antisemite, racist, Nazi, xenophobe, terrorist, and so on.

Just recently this item was deleted from his profile:

[edit] Bibliography

- (1986). *When the innocent awake*. Edenhope, Vic. Peace Books. 217p [ISBN 0-9588234-1-3](#).
- (1986). *The plight of Australian education: ailments and remedies*. Norwood, S. Aust. Peace Books. 33p [ISBN 0-9588234-0-5](#).
- (1986). *Student attitude, expectation and performance at the State College of Education*. Edenhope, Vic. Peace Books. 71p [ISBN 0-9588234-3-X](#).
- (1986). *Peirce's fallibilism and Popper's falsification theory*. Edenhope, Vic. Peace Books. 128p [ISBN 0-9588234-2-1](#).
- (1995). *Political correctness in our schools* Norwood, S. Aust. Peace Books. 74p [ISBN 0-646-26799-X](#).
- (1995). *Political correctness is no joke!: the Leuchter case*. Norwood, S. Aust. Peace Books. 27p [ISBN 0-646-24194-X](#).
- (1998). *The Boston-Curry Party: on the sacked, plundered and smoking Australian educational battlefield at Goroke*. Norwood, S. Aust. Peace Books. 343p [ISBN 0-9585466-0-6](#).
- (2001). *Where truth is no defence, I want to break free*. Norwood, S. Aust. Peace Books. 518p [ISBN 0-9585466-1-4](#).
- (2003). *Fight or Flight: The Personal Face of Revisionism*. Norwood, S. Aust. Peace Books. 669p [ISBN 0-9585466-2-2](#).
- (2007). *Forty days in Teheran: a special report*. Norwood, S. Aust. The Barnes Review/Peace Books. 116p [ISBN 978-0-9585466-9-0](#).
- (2009). *50 Days in Gaol: Dr Fredrick Töben's Global Battle for Free Speech*. The Barnes Review/PEACE Books. 94p [ISBN 978-0-9585466-7-3](#), also [ISBN 978-0-9818085-0-5](#).
- (2010). *ARBEIT MACHT FREI: impertinent incarceration*. PEACE Books. 468p [ISBN 978-0-9585466-6-9](#).

The Western media hypocritically delights in pointing out how China's media is controlled but forgets its own vile trolling deeds

China's Paid Trolls: Meet the 50-Cent Party

The Chinese government hires people to distort or deflect conversations on the web. Ai Weiwei persuades an “online commentator” to tell all.

By AI WEIWEI, 17 October 2012

In February 2011, Ai Weiwei tweeted that he would like to conduct an interview with an “online commentator”.

Commentators are hired by the Chinese government or the Communist Party of China to post comments favourable towards party policies and to shape public opinion on internet message boards and forums. The commentators are known as the 50-Cent Party, as they are said to be paid 50 cents for every post that steers a discussion away from anti-party content or that advances the Communist Party line.

Below is the transcript of Ai’s interview with an online commentator. As requested, an iPad was given as compensation for the interview. To protect the

interviewee, relevant personal information has been concealed in this script.

Question: What's your name, age, city of residence and online username?

Answer: I cannot make my name public. I'm 26. I have too many usernames. If I want to use one, I just register it. I won't mention them here.

What do you call the work you do now?

It doesn't matter what you call it: online commentator, public opinion guide, or even “the 50-Cent Party” that everyone's heard of.

What is your level of education and work experience? How did you begin the work of guiding public opinion?

I graduated from university and studied media. I once worked for a TV channel, then in online media. I've always been in the news media industry, for four or five years now. Over a year ago, a friend asked me if I wanted to be an online commentator, to earn some extra money. I said I'd give it a try. Later, I discovered it was very easy.

When and from where will you receive directives for work?

Almost every morning at 9am I receive an email from my superiors – the internet publicity office of the local government – telling me about the news we're to comment on for the day. Sometimes it specifies the website to comment on, but most of the time it's not limited to certain websites: you just find relevant news and comment on it.

Can you describe your work in detail?

The process has three steps – receive task, search for topic, post comments to guide public opinion. Receiving a task mainly involves ensuring you open your email box every day. Usually after an event has happened, or even before the news has come out, we'll receive an email telling us what the event is, then instructions on which direction to guide the netizens' thoughts, to blur their focus, or to fan their enthusiasm for certain ideas. After we've found the relevant articles or news on a website, according to the overall direction given by our superiors we start to write articles, post or reply to comments. This requires a lot of skill. You can't write in a very official manner, you must conceal your identity, write articles in many different styles, sometimes even have a dialogue with yourself, argue, debate. In sum, you want to create illusions to attract the attention and comments of netizens.

In a forum, there are three roles for you to play: the leader, the follower, the onlooker or unsuspecting member of the public. The leader is the relatively authoritative speaker, who usually appears after a controversy and speaks with powerful evidence. The public usually finds such users very convincing. There are two opposing groups of followers. The role they play is to continuously debate, argue, or even swear on the forum. This will attract attention from observers. At the end of the argument, the leader appears, brings out some powerful evidence, makes public opinion align with him and the objective is achieved. The third type is the onlookers, the netizens. They are our true target "clients". We influence the third group mainly through role-playing between the other two kinds of identity. You could say we're like directors, influencing the audience through our own writing, directing and acting. Sometimes I feel like I have a split personality.

Regarding the three roles that you play, is that a common tactic? Or are there other ways?

There are too many ways. It's kind of psychological. Netizens nowadays are more thoughtful than before. We have many ways. You can make a bad thing sound even worse, make an elaborate account, and make people think it's nonsense when they see it. In fact, it's like two negatives make a positive. When it's reached a certain degree of mediocrity, they'll think it might not be all that bad.

What is the guiding principle of your work?

The principle is to understand the guiding thought of superiors, the direction of public opinion desired, then to start your own work.

Can you reveal the content of a "task" email?

For example, "Don't spread rumours, don't believe in rumours", or "Influence public understanding of X event", "Promote the correct direction of public opinion on XXXX", "Explain and clarify XX event; avoid the appearance of untrue or illegal remarks", "For the detrimental social effect created by the recent XX event, focus on guiding the thoughts of netizens in the correct direction of XXXX".

What are the categories of information that you usually receive?

They are mainly local events. They cover over 60 to 70 per cent of local instructions – for example, people who are filing complaints or petitioning.

For countrywide events, such as the Jasmine Revolution [the pro-democracy protests that took place across the country in 2011], do you get involved?

For popular online events like the Jasmine Revolution, we have never received a related task. I also thought it was quite strange. Perhaps we aren't senior enough.

Can you tell us the content of the commentary you usually write?

The netizens are used to seeing unskilled comments that simply say the government is great or so and so is a traitor. They know what is behind it at a glance. The principle I observe is: don't directly praise the government or criticise negative news. Moreover, the tone of speech, identity and stance of speech must look as if it's an unsuspecting member of public; only then can it resonate with netizens. To sum up, you want to guide netizens obliquely and let them change their focus without realising it.

Can you go off the topic?

Of course you can go off the topic. When transferring the attention of netizens and blurring the public focus, going off the topic is very effective. For example, during the census, everyone will be talking about its truthfulness or necessity; then I'll post jokes that appeared in the census. Or, in other instances, I would publish adverts to take up space on political news reports.

Can you tell us a specific, typical process of "guiding public opinion"?

For example, each time the oil price is about to go up, we'll receive a notification to "stabilise the emotions of netizens and divert public attention". The next day, when news of the rise comes out, netizens will definitely be condemning the state, CNPC and Sinopec. At this point, I register an ID and post a comment: "Rise, rise however you want, I don't care. Best if it rises to 50 yuan per litre: it serves you right if you're too poor to drive. Only those with money should be allowed to drive on the roads . . ." This sounds like I'm inviting attacks but the aim is to anger netizens and divert the anger and attention on oil prices to me. I would then change my identity several times and start to condemn myself. This will attract more attention. After many people have seen it, they start to attack me directly. Slowly, the content of the whole page has also changed from oil price to what I've said. It is very effective.

What's your area of work? Which websites do you comment on? Which netizens do you target?

There's no limit on which websites I visit. I mainly deal with local websites, or work on Tencent. There are too many commentators on Sohu, Sina, etc. As far as I know, these websites have dedicated internal departments for commenting.

Can you tell which online comments are by online commentators?

Because I do this, I can tell at a glance that about 10 to 20 per cent out of the tens of thousands of comments posted on a forum are made by online commentators.

Will you debate with other people online? What sorts of conflicts do you have? How do you control and disperse emotion?

Most of the time we're debating with ourselves. I usually never debate with netizens and I'll never say I've been angered by a netizen or an event. You could say that usually when I'm working, I stay rational.

When the government says, "Don't believe in rumours, don't spread rumours," it achieves the opposite effect. For example, when Sars and the melamine in milk case broke out, people tended to choose not to trust the government when faced with the choices of "Don't trust rumours" and "Don't trust the government".

I think this country and government have got into a rather embarrassing situation. No matter what happens – for example, if a person commits a crime, or there's a traffic accident – as long as it's a bad event and it's publicised online, there will be people who condemn the government. I think this is very strange.

This is inevitable, because the government encompasses all. When all honour is attributed to you, all mistakes are also attributed to you. Apart from targeted events, are individuals targeted? Would there be this kind of directive?

There should be. I think for the Dalai Lama, there must be guidance throughout the country. All people in China hate the Dalai Lama and Falun Gong somewhat. According to my understanding, the government has truly gone a bit over the top. Before I got involved in this circle, I didn't know anything. So I believe that wherever public opinion has been controlled relatively well, there will always have been commentators involved.

How do your superiors inspect and assess your work?

The superiors will arrange dedicated auditors who do random checks according to the links we provide. Auditors usually don't assess, because they always make work requirements very clear. We just have to do as they say and there won't be any mistakes.

How is your compensation decided?

It's calculated on a monthly basis, according to quantity and quality. It's basically calculated at 50 yuan per 100 comments. When there's an unexpected event, the compensation might be higher. If you work together to guide public opinion on a hot topic and several dozen people are posting, the compensation for those days counts for more. Basically, the compensation is very low. I work part-time. On average, the monthly pay is about 500-600 yuan. There are people who work full-time on this. It's possible they could earn thousands of yuan a month.

Do you like your work?

I wouldn't say I like it or hate it. It's just a bit more to do each day. A bit more pocket money each month, that's all.

What's the biggest difficulty in the work?

Perhaps it's that you have to guess the psychology of netizens. You have to learn a lot of writing skills. You have to

know how to imitate another person's writing style. You need to understand how to gain the trust of the public and influence their thoughts.

Why can't you reveal your identity?

Why do you think it's sensitive?

Do you want me to lose my job? Whatever form or name we use to post on any forums or blogs is absolutely confidential. We can't reveal our identity, and I definitely wouldn't reveal that I'm a professional online commentator.

If we do, what would be the purpose of our existence? Exposure would affect not just me, it would create an even greater negative effect on our "superiors".

What do you mean by "superiors"?

Our superior leaders – above that should be the propaganda department.

Is your identity known to your family? Your friends?

No. I haven't revealed it to my family or friends. If people knew I was doing this, it might have a negative effect on my reputation.

You say: "If I reveal inside information, without exaggeration this could lead to fatality." Do you think that the consequence would be so serious?

With my identity, I'm involved in the media and also the internet. If I really reveal my identity or let something slip, it could have an incalculable effect on me.

If you say you want to quit, will there be resistance? Are there any strings attached?

Not at all. This industry is already very transparent. For me, it's just a part-time job. It's like any other job. It's not as dark as you think.

How many hours do you go online each day and on which sites? Do you rest at the weekend?

I go online for six to eight hours nearly every day. I'm mainly active on our local BBS and some large mainstream internet media and microblogs. I don't work over weekends, but I'll sign in to my email account and see if there's any important instruction.

In daily life, will you still be thinking about your online work?

Now and then. For example, when I see a piece of news, I'll think about which direction the superiors will request it to be guided in and how I would go about it. It's a bit of an occupational hazard.

Do you watch CCTV News and read the People's Daily?

I usually follow all the news, particularly the local news. But I generally don't watch CCTV News, because it's too much about harmony.

Do you go on Twitter? Who do you follow?

Yes. I follow a few interesting people, including Ai Weiwei. But I don't speak on Twitter, just read and learn.

How big a role do you think this industry plays in guiding public opinion in China?

Truthfully speaking, I think the role is quite big. The majority of netizens in China are actually very stupid. Sometimes, if you don't guide them, they really will believe in rumours.

Because their information is limited to begin with. So, with limited information, it's very difficult for them to express a political view.

I think they can be incited very easily. I can control them very easily. Depending on how I want them to be, I use a little bit of thought and that's enough. It's very easy. So I think the effect should be quite significant.

Do you think the government has the right to guide public opinion?

Personally, I think absolutely not. But in China, the government absolutely must interfere and guide public opinion. The majority of Chinese netizens are incited too easily, don't think for themselves and are deceived and incited too easily by false news.

Do you have to believe in the viewpoints you express? Are you concerned about politics and the future?

I don't have to believe in them. Sometimes you know well that what you say is false or untrue. But you still have to say it, because it's your job. I'm not too concerned about Chinese politics. There's nothing to be concerned about in Chinese politics.

<http://www.newstatesman.com/politics/politics/2012/10/china%20%80%99s-paid-trolls-meet-50-cent-party>

Attendance call on the first day back at school...
the teacher takes the roll call:
'Mustafa El Ekh Zeri?'
'Here.'
'Achmed El Kabul?'
'Here.'
'Fatima Al Chadoury? "
'Here.'
'Abdul Alu Ohlmi?'
'Here.'
'Mohammed Ibn Achrha?'

'Here.'
'Mi Cha El Oh Ben?'
Silence in the classroom...
'Mi Cha El Oh Ben?'
Continued silence as everyone looks around the room, and the teacher repeats:
'Is there any child here called Mi Cha El Oh Ben?'
A boy puts his hand up and says:
'Sorry teacher but I think that's me – my name is pronounced Michael O'Brien.'

